

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 949

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor the citizens of Gordonsville on the occasion of their town's centennial celebration.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those communities celebrating momentous occasions in their respective histories; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Gordonsville are most assuredly deserving of special recognition, as they will soon commemorate their town's centennial; and

WHEREAS, Gordonsville, a shimmering jewel in heart of Smith County, was named after John Gordon, who moved to the area at the turn of the 19th century. Mr. Gordon served on the commission to determine the county seat and rendered sterling service as a justice of the peace, deputy sheriff, sheriff, state senator, state representative, teacher, a presidential elector in 1836, and the postmaster of the Gordonsville's first post office, which opened in 1823; and

WHEREAS, John Gordon and his wife, Alice Gale Amis, had twelve children, and four generations of Gordons lived in the house built by John Gordon until it burned in 1927; and

WHEREAS, Gordonsville became incorporated when its charter was passed by the General Assembly on April 23, 1909, and approved by Governor Malcolm R. Patterson on April 26, 1909; and

WHEREAS, the town's first mayor was R. M. McDonald and its first aldermen were J. S. Campbell, W. T. Askew, F. A. Smith., J. H. Timberlake, and T. A. Hugin; and

WHEREAS, the town of Gordonsville has seen a great many events and accomplishments during the past 100 years. The first sidewalks in the county were laid in Gordonsville in 1909; this first network was expanded in 1949, 1971, 1978, and 1980; and

WHEREAS, Gordonsville High School was opened in 1913 and graduated its first class in 1917; and

WHEREAS, the oldest business in continuous operation in Gordonsville is the J. L. Bas Funeral Home, which was first established in 1916; and

WHEREAS, on December 24, 1924, a large fire tragically destroyed a large part of the town; and

WHEREAS, 1966 saw the completion of Interstate 40, the purchase of the town's first fire engine, and the establishment of Gordonsville's library; and

WHEREAS, it was in 1967 that the Welch Company brought its industry to Gordonsville, becoming the first of many industries to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Gordonsville Police Department was established in 1978, the Ivy Agee Memorial Park was opened in 1985, Gordonsville High School's football team won the state championship in 1984, and the town began operating a sewage system in 1993-94; and

WHEREAS, over the past one hundred years, the population of Gordonsville has grown from approximately 200 people to more than 1,200 people; and

WHEREAS, this year, the citizens of Gordonsville will celebrate and mark the 100th anniversary of its incorporation; and

WHEREAS, Gordonsville is one of the great municipalities in Tennessee, and it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor this fine municipality and its citizenry as they commemorate this significant milestone; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the citizens of the Town of Gordonsville upon the celebration of their centennial and extend to them our best wishes for continued success, growth, and prosperity in their outstanding community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.